United Nations A/RES/60/134

General Assembly

Distr.: General
31 January 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 62

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/60/501)*]

60/134. Follow-up to the implementation of the International Year of Volunteers

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/106 of 26 November 2002 on the follow-up to the International Year of Volunteers,

Recognizing the valuable contribution of volunteering, including traditional forms of mutual aid and self-help, formal service delivery and other forms of civic participation, to economic and social development, benefiting society at large, communities and the individual volunteer,

Recognizing also that volunteerism is an important component of any strategy aimed at, inter alia, such areas as poverty reduction, sustainable development, health, disaster prevention and management and social integration and, in particular, overcoming social exclusion and discrimination,

Noting with appreciation the efforts to increase understanding and awareness of volunteerism through research, global information-sharing and education, including efforts to develop an effective network for volunteers through, inter alia, the World Volunteer Web[1] and linked national sites,

Acknowledging the existing contribution of the organizations of the United Nations system to supporting volunteering, including the work of United Nations Volunteers around the world,

Bearing in mind the need for an integrated and coordinated follow-up to the International Year of Volunteers to be pursued in the relevant parts of the United Nations system,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General in response to the report of the Panel of Eminent Persons on United Nations-Civil Society Relations;[3]

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[1] www.worldvolunteerweb.org.

[2] A/60/128.

[3] A/59/354.

3. *Welcomes* the hosting of the first International Conference on Volunteerism and the Millennium Development Goals, organized jointly by the Government of Pakistan and the United Nations system and held in Islamabad from 5 to 7 December 2004, and takes note of its final report;[1]

4. *Reiterates its call upon* Governments, with the active support of the media, civil society and the private sector, to observe the International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development on 5 December and to include activities, in particular on efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals;

5. *Reaffirms* the need to recognize and promote all forms of volunteerism as an issue that involves and benefits all segments of society, including children, young persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, minorities and immigrants and those who remain excluded for social or economic reasons;

6. *Recognizes* that volunteering, in particular at the community level, will help to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[4]

7. *Also recognizes* the importance of supportive legislative and fiscal frameworks for the growth and development of volunteerism, and encourages Governments to enact such measures;

8. *Welcomes* the work of the United Nations Volunteers, and requests them to continue their efforts, together with other stakeholders, to raise awareness of volunteerism, increase reference and networking resources available, provide technical cooperation to developing countries, upon their request, in the field of volunteerism and enhance coordination among those operating on the ground;

9. *Invites* all stakeholders, especially from the private sector community and from private foundations, to support volunteerism as a strategic tool to enhance economic and social development, including by expanding corporate volunteering;

10. *Calls for* the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to integrate volunteerism in its various forms into their policies, programmes and reports, and encourages the recognition and inclusion of volunteer contributions in future United Nations and other relevant international conferences;

11. *Acknowledges* the importance of civil society organizations for the promotion of volunteerism, and in this respect recognizes that strengthening the dialogue and interaction between civil society and the United Nations contributes to the expansion of volunteerism;

12. *Encourages* Governments to establish partnerships with civil society in order to build up volunteer potential at the national level, given the important contribution that volunteerism makes to the fulfilment of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

13. *Recognizes* the increasing attention being given to the economic dimension of volunteerism, and encourages Governments, with the support of civil society, to build up a knowledge base on the subject, to disseminate data and to expand research on other volunteer-related issues, including in developing countries;

[4] See resolution 55/2.

14. *Welcomes* the work of the United Nations Volunteers in building up the capacity of the World Volunteer Web[1] with a view to enhancing network capabilities and to expanding information, knowledge and resource management, and encourages Governments and all stakeholders, in particular the private sector, to contribute on a voluntary basis to this initiative;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family" and to include in the report proposals regarding possible ways to mark the tenth anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers in 2011.

64th plenary meeting
16 December 2005

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General Assembly

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2 February 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 63

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/60/502 and Corr.1)*]

60/135. Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[1] its resolution 58/134 of 22 December 2003, in which it took note, inter alia, of the road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and its resolution 59/150 of 20 December 2004,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/14 of 21 July 2003, in which the Council invited Governments, the United Nations system and civil society to participate in a "bottom-up" approach to the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action,

Recalling further Commission for Social Development resolution 42/1 of 13 February 2004 entitled "Modalities for the review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002",[2] in which the Commission decided to undertake the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action every five years, with each review and appraisal cycle to focus on one of the priority directions of the Madrid Plan of Action,

Recognizing that in many parts of the world, awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action remains limited or non-existent, which limits the scope of implementation efforts,

1. *Calls upon* Governments, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and the non-governmental community to reinforce their advocacy campaigns aimed at informing all major societal actors, including older persons and their organizations, about the decisions taken at the Second World Assembly on Ageing;

[1] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 6* (E/2004/26), chap. I, sect. E.

2. *Recommends* that ongoing efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] take into account the situation of older persons;

3. *Calls upon* Governments and, within their mandates, the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, and encourages the non-governmental community, to ensure that the challenges of population ageing and the concerns of older persons are adequately incorporated into their programmes and projects;

4. *Invites* Member States and the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to take into account the needs and concerns of older persons in decision-making at all levels;

5. *Stresses* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level in order to promote and facilitate implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[4] and in this connection encourages Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

6. *Calls upon* Governments to consult and utilize the Research Agenda on Ageing for the Twenty-First Century, adopted by the Valencia Forum in April 2002, as a tool for strengthening national capacity on ageing for the implementation, review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action;

7. *Invites* Governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to encourage and support comprehensive, diversified and specialized research on ageing in all countries;

8. *Invites* the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council to integrate the issues of population and individual ageing into their work in order to promote implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action;

9. *Recommends* that the Commission on the Status of Women continue to consider the situation of older women, in particular those who are most vulnerable, including those living in rural areas;

10. *Encourages* those regional commissions that have not yet done so to elaborate a regional strategy for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action;

11. *Takes note* of Commission for Social Development resolution 42/1,[2] and in this context requests the Secretary-General to present his proposals for conducting the review and appraisal exercise at the regional and global levels to the Commission at its forty-fourth session;

12. *Requests* the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue to strengthen the capacity of the focal points on ageing and to provide them with adequate resources for further implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, in particular through appropriate mainstreaming action;

13. *Stresses* the importance of the collection of data and population statistics disaggregated by age and sex on all aspects of policy formulation by all countries, and encourages the relevant entities of the United Nations system to support

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[3] See resolution 55/2.

[4] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

national efforts in capacity-building, especially those of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, takes note in this context of the establishment by the United Nations of an Internet-accessible database on ageing, and invites States to submit, whenever possible, information for inclusion in the database;

14. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[5] and requests that it be forwarded to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-fourth session in order to assist the Commission in its deliberations;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[5] A/60/151.

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Agenda item 64

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/60/503)*]

60/136. In-depth study on all forms of violence against women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 58/185 of 22 December 2003 entitled "In-depth study on all forms of violence against women",

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of preparations for the study;[1]

2. *Welcomes:*

(*a*) The work undertaken so far in conducting the study, in particular at the expert group meeting on data and statistics on violence against women, held in Geneva from 11 to 14 April 2005, and the expert group meeting on good practices in combating violence against women, held in Vienna from 17 to 20 May 2005;

(*b*) The initiatives taken at the national, regional and international levels to highlight the study and contribute to its preparation, including the workshop on violence against women, held in Paris on 28 and 29 April 2005, and the consultation held at United Nations Headquarters on 6 and 7 September 2005;

3. *Stresses once again* the importance, when conducting the study, of close cooperation with:

(*a*) All relevant United Nations bodies, funds and programmes, including the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the World Health Organization and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;

(*b*) All relevant parts of the Secretariat, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the regional commissions;

(*c*) United Nations treaty bodies, in particular the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

[1] A/60/211.

(*d*) Special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights, in particular the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To seize all opportunities to raise awareness of the conduct of the study and solicit contributions, and in this regard notes with appreciation the launch of a website dedicated to the study[2] and the online discussion that took place from 26 September to 14 October 2005;

(*b*) To ensure that the conduct of the in-depth study on all forms of violence against women will be carried out in close cooperation with the in-depth study on the question of violence against children requested in its resolution 56/138 of 19 December 2001 so as to enable the exchange of appropriate information;

(*c*) To continue to provide opportunities for consultations with Member States and other stakeholders and to solicit information, including on strategies, policies, programmes and best practices, including from regional organizations;

(*d*) To continue and, where appropriate, to strengthen cooperation with relevant non-governmental organizations in the preparation of the study on all forms of violence against women;

5. *Urges* all relevant United Nations bodies, funds and programmes to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General in the conduct of the study and, whenever possible, draw attention to it, so as to expand opportunities for contribution to its preparation and follow-up;

6. *Encourages* Member States to contribute to the funding of the study in order to meet the budgetary requirements for the study and to provide, as applicable, the Secretary-General with updated information on issues to be covered by the study;

7. *Decides*:

(*a*) To extend the deadline for submission of the report mentioned in subparagraph (*d*) of its resolution 58/185 to its sixty-first session, at the latest by early September 2006, in time for an in-depth consideration at that session;

(*b*) To consider the report at its sixty-first session under the item entitled "Advancement of women".

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[2] www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/index.htm